

Michigan Association for Purebred Dogs



Michigan Hunting Dog Federation



Position Paper

HB 5192

Reduce the minimum age for license to hunt with firearm for deer, bear or elk

The Michigan Hunting Dog Federation and the Michigan Association for Pure Bred Dogs support the enactment of this bill.

These two federations of dog clubs are composed of members who are active, in a variety of ways, in the enjoyment of recreational activities in the fields and woodlands of Michigan. They wish to share their enjoyment of hunting with their growing family. They believe that participation in hunting should be instilled, cultivated, and perpetuated in the younger generation, especially their own children. What better way to achieve this goal than have their minor children join with them and to learn the lessons, skills, and enjoyment of the hunt.

The sport of searching for and taking game can be taught at a time when the minor child's maturity is at a stage when he/she is most receptive to participating in an ancient, legal, and educational sport.

Including minors in the family hunting adventure is an excellent opportunity to pass to the next generation our heritage, our knowledge, and our values of the natural environment.

The protection and management of our wildlife resources for the future will depend upon educated and experienced personnel to maintain a proper balance of our natural resources. Encouraging young, active and intellectual youngsters to take an interest in preserving the environment, understanding the relations between the plants, animals and human needs is our responsibility as parents. We believe these goals can be achieved by encouraging our youth to join us in the fields and woodlands.

Hunting is a excellent way of teaching youngsters the problems and solutions to overpopulation of our wildlife as well as domestic animals. That harvesting the natural resources of animals as well as plants is an age-old practice that keep our natural resources in balance. Let's pass that concept along to the next generation.

The provisions incorporated into this bill, we believe, are sufficient to make the hunting experience a safe and sane adventure and will contribute much to the understanding by our youth of the state's natural resources.

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Promoting Responsible Dog Ownership